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AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 17, 2006

SENATE BILL

No. 1563

Introduced by Senator Escutia

(~~Coauthor: Senator Soto~~ Coauthors: Senators Romero and Soto)

February 23, 2006

An act to amend Section 60641 of, and to add Sections 78213.5 and 78213.8 to, the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1563, as amended, Escutia. Community colleges: Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes those districts to provide instruction to students at community college campuses.

This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to, among other things, the rates at which students who enroll in community colleges as freshmen return for a second year of college.

The bill would express legislative intent to enact legislation to establish a Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program for the purpose of providing high school pupils with an indicator of their readiness for transfer level English and mathematics at the end of grade 11 and allowing high schools to work with pupils in grade 12 to elevate the skills of these pupils to a level commensurate with transfer level English and mathematics.

The bill would establish the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program for 5 years, for the purpose of providing high school pupils with an indicator of their readiness for transfer level English and mathematics at the end of grade 11 and allowing high schools to work with pupils in grade 12 to elevate their skills to a level expected of first-time community college freshman students. The bill would require the program to be administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

The bill would provide that community colleges, along with their feeder high schools, shall be eligible to participate in the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program. The bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to select the participating community colleges ~~and high schools~~ from districts applying to the program and agreeing to meet the requirements established for participation in the program. The bill would require the chancellor, in making these selections, to give priority to colleges ~~and schools~~ from districts that are currently working with, or utilizing, Cal-PASS data. The bill would specify requirements to be met by participating community colleges ~~and high schools~~.

The bill would require the board of governors, to the extent that funding is provided specifically for this purpose in the annual Budget Act or another statute, to provide a stipend to each participating community college ~~and high school~~. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature that this stipend, in conjunction with base funding received by the participating institutions, shall be adequate to cover all costs incurred by up to 25 community colleges and their respective feeder high schools under the program.

The bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, from funds provided in the annual Budget Act for this purpose, to contract with a *an* entity deemed by the chancellor to be reputable, independent, and competent to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. The bill would require this entity to submit a final evaluation report, including answers to specified questions, to the

Legislature, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Governor on or before December 1, 2012. The bill would require the Office of the Legislative Analyst to review the final report, and, on or before February 1, 2013, to make recommendations regarding whether the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program should be continued, modified, expanded, or discontinued.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (1) In California and throughout the nation, an increasing
4 number of jobs require some education beyond high school to
5 meet the challenges of a growing, knowledge-based global
6 economy. Of the students who seek a postsecondary education in
7 California, 62 percent attend a community college. Current data
8 show that many of these students do not complete a degree,
9 certificate, or transfer program.

10 (2) More than 50 percent of incoming students of the
11 California Community Colleges require remediation or basic
12 skills development in order to complete college level work. This
13 is a critical factor determining student success in achieving
14 educational objectives.

15 (3) There is a need for greater coordination and course
16 articulation between community colleges and high schools to
17 create smooth pathways into, and the successful completion of,
18 community college programs.

19 (4) Early assessment is a diagnostic tool and a fundamental
20 means for improving student preparation for, and success in,
21 community college. Early assessment must be part of a larger set
22 of aligned activities, so students may fully benefit from every
23 step in their educational career.

24 (b) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to enact
25 legislation to establish a Community College Early Assessment
26 Pilot Program for the purpose of providing high school pupils
27 with an indicator of their readiness for transfer level English and
28 mathematics at the end of grade 11 and allowing high schools to
29 work with pupils in grade 12 to elevate the skills of these pupils

1 to a level commensurate with transfer level English and
2 mathematics.

3 (c) It is also the intent of the Legislature that this program help
4 pupils become better prepared for college.

5 (d) It is also the intent of the Legislature that this program
6 work, ~~to the extent possible, in coordination with~~ *in coordination*
7 *with, and utilize to the fullest extent possible, the existing*
8 *California State University Early Assessment Program and the*
9 *Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program of the*
10 *State Department of Education and the Early Assessment*
11 *Program of the California State University.*

12 (e) It is also the intent of the Legislature that the Community
13 College Early Assessment Pilot Program not affect the statutory
14 reporting requirements of the STAR Program or increase the
15 costs of either the STAR program or the State Department of
16 Education.

17 SEC. 2. Section 60641 of the Education Code is amended to
18 read:

19 60641. (a) The department shall ensure that school districts
20 comply with each of the following requirements:

21 (1) The achievement test designated pursuant to Section 60642
22 and the standards-based achievement test provided for in Section
23 60642.5 are scheduled to be administered to all pupils during the
24 period prescribed in subdivision (b) of Section 60640.

25 (2) The individual results of each pupil test administered
26 pursuant to Section 60640 shall be reported, in writing, to the
27 pupil's parent or guardian. The written report shall include a
28 clear explanation of the purpose of the test, the pupil's score, and
29 its intended use by the school district. This subdivision does not
30 require teachers or other school district personnel to prepare
31 individualized explanations of each pupil's test score.

32 (3) (A) The individual results of each pupil test administered
33 pursuant to Section 60640 shall also be reported to the pupil's
34 school and teachers. The school district shall include the pupil's
35 test results in his or her pupil records. However, except as
36 provided in this section, individual pupil test results may only be
37 released with the permission of either the pupil's parent or
38 guardian if the pupil is a minor, or the pupil if the pupil has
39 reached the age of majority or is emancipated.

1 (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a pupil or his or her
2 parent or guardian may authorize the release of individual pupil
3 results to a postsecondary educational institution for the purpose
4 of credit, placement, assessment ~~of~~, or admission.

5 (4) The districtwide, school-level, and grade-level results of
6 the STAR Program in each of the grades designated pursuant to
7 Section 60640, but not the score or relative position of any
8 individually ascertainable pupil, shall be reported to the
9 governing board of the school district at a regularly scheduled
10 meeting, and the countywide, school-level, and grade-level
11 results for classes and programs under the jurisdiction of the
12 county office of education shall be similarly reported to the
13 county board of education at a regularly scheduled meeting.

14 (b) The publisher designated pursuant to Section 60642 and
15 the publisher of the standards-based achievement tests provided
16 for in Section 60642.5 shall make the individual pupil, grade,
17 school, school district, and state results available to the
18 department pursuant to paragraph (9) of subdivision (a) of
19 Section 60643 by August 8 of each year in which the
20 achievement test is administered for those schools for which the
21 last day of test administration, including makeup days, is on or
22 before June 25. The department shall make the grade, school,
23 school district, and state results available on the Internet by
24 August 15 of each year in which the achievement test is
25 administered for those schools for which the last day of test
26 administration, including makeup days, is on or before June 25.

27 (c) The department shall take all reasonable steps to ensure
28 that the results of the test for all pupils who take the test by June
29 25 are made available on the Internet by August 15, as set forth
30 in subdivision (b).

31 (d) The department shall ensure that a California Standards
32 Test that is augmented for the purpose of determining credit,
33 placement, assessment ~~of college readiness~~, or admission of a
34 pupil in a postsecondary educational institution inform a pupil in
35 grade 11 that he or she may request that the results from that
36 assessment be released to a postsecondary educational institution.

37 SEC. 3. Section 78213.5 is added to the Education Code, to
38 read:

39 78213.5. (a) (1) Commencing with the 2007–08 academic
40 year, the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program is

1 established, for five years, for the purpose of providing high
2 school pupils with an indicator of their readiness for transfer
3 level English and mathematics at the end of grade 11 and
4 allowing high schools to work with pupils in grade 12 to elevate
5 their skills to that level. The program shall be administered by
6 the board of governors.

7 (2) In order to provide high school pupils with this indicator, a
8 community college participating in the program shall use, but not
9 necessarily be limited to, test results released to that college
10 pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 60641.

11 (3) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section 78213, the
12 individual results of the California Standards Test and the
13 California Standards Test (CST) as augmented pursuant to
14 Section 60641 may be used to provide diagnostic advice to
15 prospective community college students participating in the
16 Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program.

17 ~~(b) The Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program~~
18 ~~shall work in coordination with the State Department of~~
19 ~~Education on all Community College Early Assessment Pilot~~
20 ~~Program activities related to the STAR program. Activities~~
21 ~~impacting the STAR Program shall first be reviewed and, where~~
22 ~~necessary, approved by the State Board of Education and the~~
23 ~~State Department of Education pursuant to paragraph (2) of~~
24 ~~subdivision (e) of Section 60643. The Community College Early~~
25 ~~Assessment Pilot Program shall be responsible for all costs~~
26 ~~incurred in any additional activities that are part of the~~
27 ~~Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program and that are~~
28 ~~related to the STAR program.~~

29 *(b) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges*
30 *shall work in coordination with the State Department of*
31 *Education in implementing the Community College Early*
32 *Assessment Pilot Program as it relates to the Standardized*
33 *Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program. Activities impacting the*
34 *STAR Program as it relates to the implementation of the pilot*
35 *program may be reviewed and, where necessary, approved by the*
36 *State Board of Education and the State Department of Education*
37 *pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 60643.*
38 *The pilot program shall be responsible for the costs incurred in*
39 *implementing the pilot program as it relates to the STAR*
40 *Program.*

(c) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall select, from community college districts applying to participate in the program, institutions that agree to meet the requirements established for participation in the program. Community colleges, along with their feeder high schools, may participate in the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program. In selecting community colleges ~~and high schools~~ for participation in the program, the chancellor shall give priority to colleges ~~and schools~~ from districts that are currently working with, or utilizing, data from the California Partnership for Achieving Student Success (Cal-PASS).

(d) The standards utilized by the California State University to assess readiness for transfer-level English and mathematics courses, as expressed in the CST as augmented by the California State University, shall also be used for the purposes of this pilot program. *The pilot program shall utilize the identical version of the CST as augmented by the California State University.*

(e) (1) The pilot program may additionally ~~include indicators of~~ assess readiness for degree-applicable English and mathematics courses that are consistent with associate degree standards as adopted by the board of governors. ~~Inclusion of these indicators of readiness within the pilot program shall be determined by the board of governors~~ in consultation with the Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges. *The identical version of the CST as augmented by the California State University shall be used to make any additional assessment of readiness for degree applicable English and mathematics courses, but the scoring of the assessment may be modified.*

(2) If the board of governors determines that the ~~indicators~~ assessment described in paragraph (1) should be included in the pilot program, then, in furtherance of this purpose, CST items may be reviewed by any person charged by the board of governors with the implementation of the program, if that person agrees in writing, prior to the review of the CST, to maintain the confidentiality of the CST and its items and that the evaluation of these items shall be done in coordination with the State Department of Education and the California State University to ensure the security and the integrity of the CST and the test items augmented by the California State University.

(f) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall rely on the California Partnership for Achieving Student Success, as identified in subdivision (d) of Provision (21) of Item ~~6870-101-001~~ 6870-101-0001 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2006 for the collection and analysis of the results of the augmented CST for the purpose of informing the development of curriculum to be implemented during grade 12 to improve student success in postsecondary education.

~~(g) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall rely upon the Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges in cooperation with participating high schools, community colleges, and the California State University, for the facilitation of the creation and implementation of professional development opportunities to train high school teachers in developing and implementing curriculum aligned to the adopted transfer-level standards. These professional development opportunities shall consist of community college and California State University faculty mentors working directly with grade 11 and 12 teachers to ensure alignment between the curriculum and the adopted community college standards.~~

(g) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall work in coordination with the California State University, and rely upon the academic senates for the California Community Colleges and the California State University to develop appropriate grade 12 enrichment curriculum designed to address basic skill development in English and mathematics to promote success in postsecondary education. The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall coordinate efforts with the California State University to provide professional development opportunities to train high school teachers in implementing this grade 12 enrichment curriculum.

(h) At a minimum, the following requirements shall be met by participating community colleges and high schools:

(1) Participating community colleges shall consult with the Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges to sequence their precollegiate level courses and transfer-level courses in English and mathematics to the elementary and secondary academic content standards adopted pursuant to Section 60605.

(2) Participating high schools and community colleges shall work together in ~~coordination with the California State University to develop and implement appropriate grade 12 curriculum to improve student readiness for postsecondary~~ *implementing appropriate grade 12 enrichment curriculum that is designed to address basic skill development in English and mathematics to promote success in postsecondary* education.

(3) Participating community colleges shall make college outreach advisors available to participating feeder high schools to assist students in making decisions that increase their college readiness skills and increase the likelihood of *their* pursuing a postsecondary education.

(i) The *Chancellor of the* California Community Colleges shall work with the ~~California State~~ Department of Education and the California State University to develop a community college student notification system that utilizes, to the extent possible, the current early assessment system of the California State University for notifying pupils of their grade 11 test results and apprising them of grade 12 academic enrichment opportunities. This system shall ensure that all of the following occur:

(1) Prospective community college students receive notification regarding their readiness for transfer-level English and mathematics at a community college and grade 12 academic enrichment opportunities available to pupils for strengthening English and mathematics skills that will help them succeed in college.

(2) Prospective community college pupils are informed that this information is only an indicator of their readiness to take transfer-level English and mathematics courses and has no bearing on their eligibility to attend community college.

(3) Pupils are reassured that they are eligible to attend community college.

(4) ~~That the~~ *The* State Department of Education is not responsible for funding any additional costs associated with implementing this section.

(j) To the extent that funding is provided specifically for this purpose in the annual Budget Act or in another statute, the board of governors shall provide a stipend to each participating community college ~~and high school~~. It is the intent of the Legislature that this stipend, in conjunction with base funding

received by the participating institutions, shall be adequate to cover all costs incurred by up to 25 community colleges and their respective feeder high schools under the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program.

SEC. 4. Section 78213.8 is added to the Education Code, to read:

78213.8. (a) From funds provided in the annual Budget Act for this purpose, the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall contract with ~~a~~ *an* entity deemed by the chancellor to be reputable, independent, and competent to evaluate the effectiveness of the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program.

(b) (1) No more than six months after the second administration of the assessment to grade 11 pupils under Section 78213.5, the entity contracted with pursuant to subdivision (a) shall submit an interim evaluation report to the Legislature, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Governor. By December 1, 2012, the entity shall submit a final evaluation report to the Legislature, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Governor.

(2) The final evaluation of the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program shall, at a minimum and to the fullest extent possible, call upon the expertise of community college faculty and explore, but not necessarily be limited to, answers to all of the following questions:

(A) Do students who participate in the pilot program and who require additional skill development in English or mathematics, or both, adjust their grade 12 course schedule to include English or mathematics, or both, to better prepare for postsecondary education?

(B) Is there a decrease in the total number of basic skills courses that pilot program participants must complete before entering degree applicable courses and transfer-level courses at community colleges?

(C) Are the indicators of readiness for transfer-level courses utilized in the pilot program appropriate and accurate indicators of readiness for degree applicable and transfer level courses?

(c) The Office of the Legislative Analyst shall review the final report submitted under subdivision (b), and, on or before February 1, 2013, shall make recommendations regarding

- 1 whether the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program
- 2 should be continued, modified, expanded, or discontinued.

O